# From Science to Regulation-(With the additional perspective of ten months of on-the-job training)

Robert Sawyer, Ph.D.
Chair, California Air Resources Board
and

Class of 1935 Professor of Energy Emeritus University of California at Berkeley

Chair's Seminar, Air Resources Board Sacramento

1 November 2006



### **Outline**

- Four regulatory issues with evolving science
  - Vehicle exhaust, atmospheric chemistry, and smog (a retrospective)
  - Particles and health
  - Oxides of nitrogen
  - Global warming
- Some successes and challenges



# Four regulatory issues with evolving science





#### Regulatory Issue #1

### VEHICLE EXHAUST, ATMOSPHERIC CHEMISTRY, AND SMOG

(A retrospective)





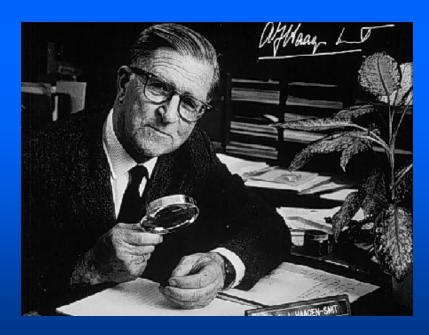
### 1940s: Los Angeles





### 1950s: Photochemical smog described by Prof. Arie Haagen-Smit

- HCs + NO<sub>x</sub> → oxidants
- Automotive source



4.5 million vehicles



### 1960s: automotive emissions controls

- Motor Vehicle Pollution Control Board
- California positive crankcase ventilation (PCV) control
- California authority to set own motor vehicle emission standards
- Tailpipe standards for CO, HC
- California Air Resources Board (CARB)
- Prof. Haagen-Smit first chair (1967)



#### 1970s: U. S. Clean Air Act

- U.S. EPA, 1970
- Los Angeles ozone 0.58 ppm
- CARB automotive NO<sub>x</sub> standards, 1971
- National ambient air quality standards, 1971
- 2-way, 3-way automotive catalysts



### 1980s: expanding regulation

- In-use compliance testing
- Low emission vehicle (LEV) standards
- On-board diagnostics (OBD) rule
- Toxic air contaminant bill



### 1990s: tightening standards

- Cleaner burning gasoline program
- Zero emission vehicle (ZEV) program
- California diesel fuel introduction
- Smog check II
- LEV II standards (98+% reduction)
- MTBE ban



### 2000s: climate change

- No Stage 1 smog alerts (0.20 ppm O<sub>3</sub>) in South Coast Air Basin
- Diesel risk reduction program
- AB1493 (Pavley) motor vehicle greenhouse gas emissions reduction
- Climate change action plan for California
- AB32 California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006



### Regulatory Issue #2

#### **PARTICLES AND HEALTH**



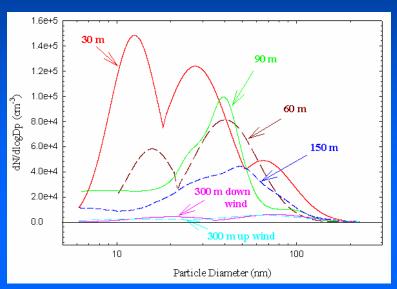


#### Particle health effects issues

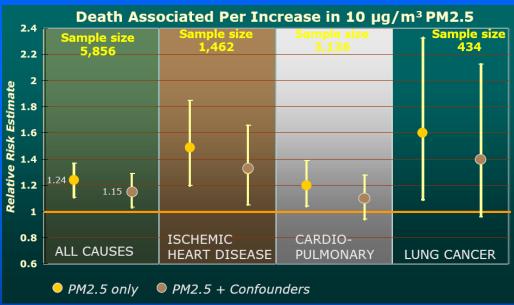
- Understanding of effects has changed dramatically: cardiovascular vs pulmonary
- Science base: toxicology to epidemiology
- Short term and long term exposures
- Importance of size and composition?
- PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, PM<sub>0.25</sub> and/or number standard?



### Getting exposure right



C. Sioutas, near freeway studies



M. Jerrett, zip code linked exposures (2005)



#### Regulatory Issue #3

#### **OXIDES OF NITROGEN**





### Nitrogen oxygen chemistry

- NO (combustion)
  - $-N_2 + O \rightarrow NO + N$
  - $O_2 + N \rightarrow NO + O$
- NO<sub>2</sub> (combustion, troposphere, catalysis)
  - $-NO + OH \rightarrow NO_2 + H$
  - $-NO + O_3 \rightarrow NO_2 + O_2$
  - NO + O(surface) → NO<sub>2</sub>
- N<sub>2</sub>O (soil, stratosphere, catalysis)
- HONO (combustion, troposphere)
- HONO<sub>2</sub> (troposphere)



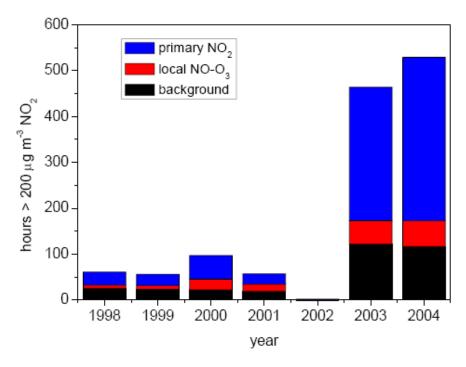
### Nitrogen dioxide issues

- Air quality standard
  - US EPA: 53 ppb (annual mean)
  - California: 250 ppb (1 hour)
  - WHO (new): 20 ppb (annual mean100 ppb (1 hour)
- Formation on diesel catalytic trap



### London experience

## Contributions to NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations > 200 µg m<sup>-3</sup> at Marylebone Road







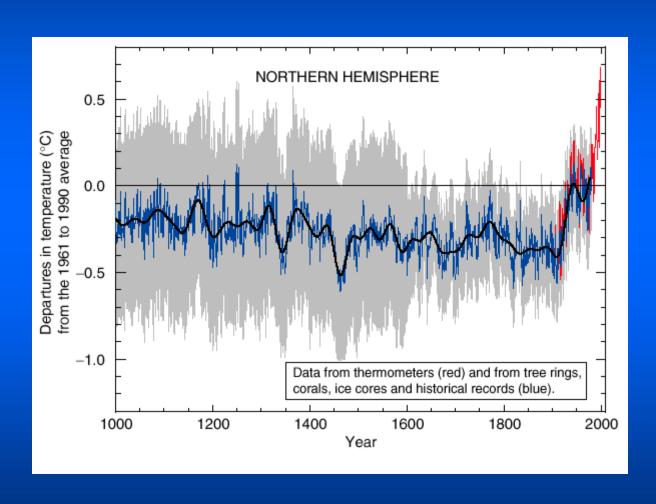
### **Regulatory Issue #4**

### **GLOBAL WARMING**



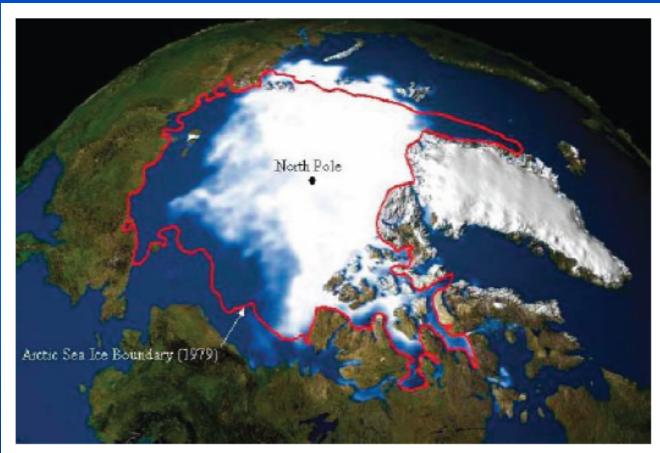


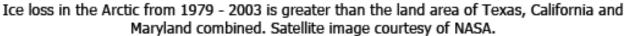
### Global warming evidence





### Climate change science drives policy decisions

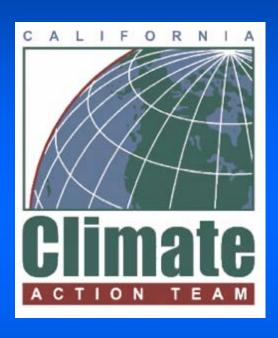








#### California initiatives



"...the debate is over. We know the science. We see the threat. And we know the time for action is now."—Gov. Schwarzenegger, 1 June 2005

#### Proposals include:

Mandatory greenhouse gas registry

Greenhouse gas cap and trade

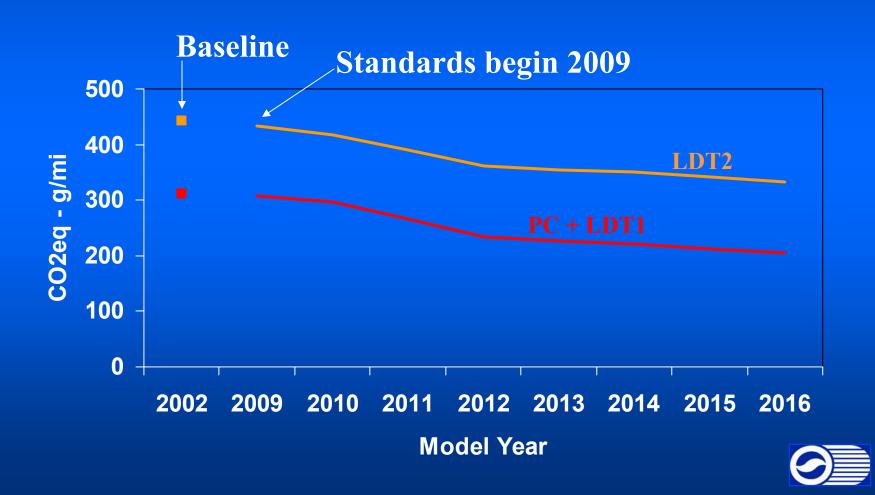
Alternative transportation fuels

# Motor vehicle climate change emissions control regulation (AB1493 Pavley)

- Light duty passenger cars and trucks
- CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, HFC
- 2009-2016 phase-in, fleet averaged
- 30% reduction (new vehicles)
- Cost effective to customer
- Based on existing technology
- Adopted by 10 states, 1/3 U.S. sales
- Legal challenge by automobile industry



## Fleet average new vehicle CO<sub>2eq</sub> emissions



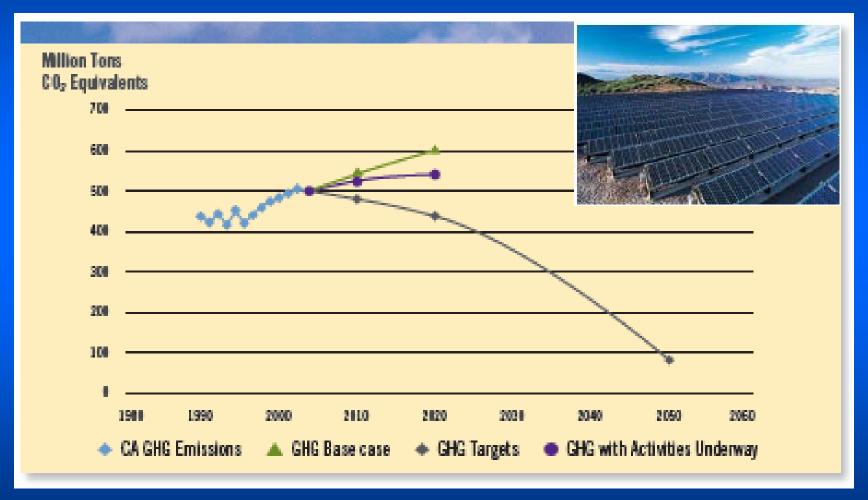
### California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB32)

- Reduce GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020 (30% reduction)
- Applies to Kyoto pollutants: CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, HFC, PFC, SF<sub>6</sub>
- CARB implements most measures
- Detailed action schedule





### California greenhouse gas emission trends (CEC, 2005)





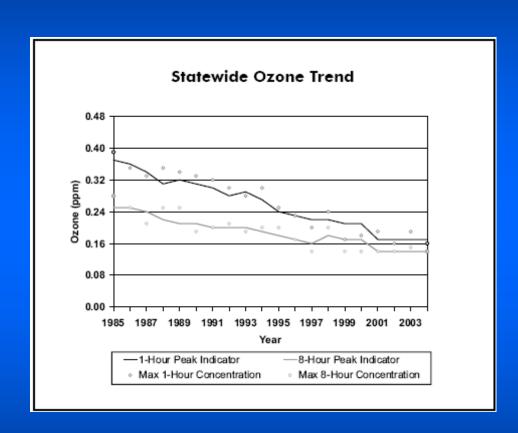
# Some successes and challenges





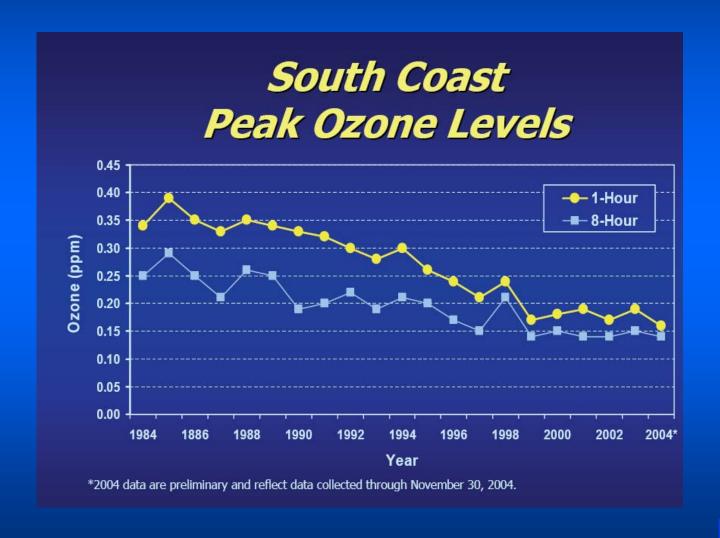
### Success: air quality improving

- Lead
- Nitrogen dioxide
- ✓ Sulfur dioxide
- Carbon monoxide
- Ozone
- Particulate matter





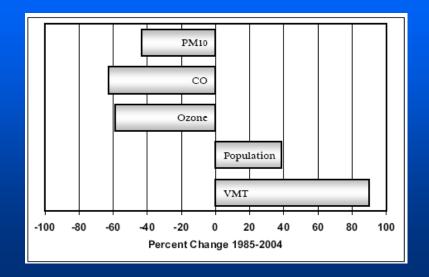
### Success: South Coast ozone falling





### Challenge: continuing growth

- Population
- Motor vehicles
- Motor fuel consumption
- Vehicle miles traveled
- Goods movement





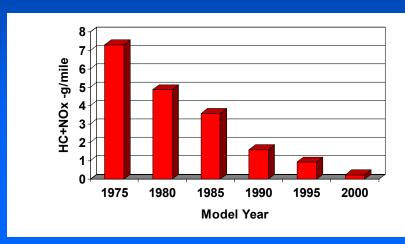
### Success: new light duty fleet clean and durable

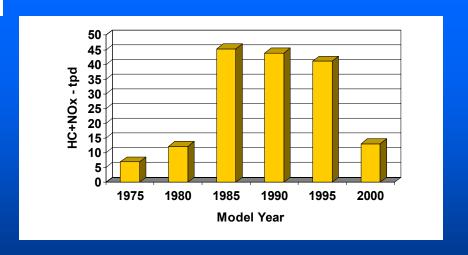
- Tailpipe emissions
- Evaporative emissions
- On-board diagnostics





### Challenge: older, in-use light duty vehicles

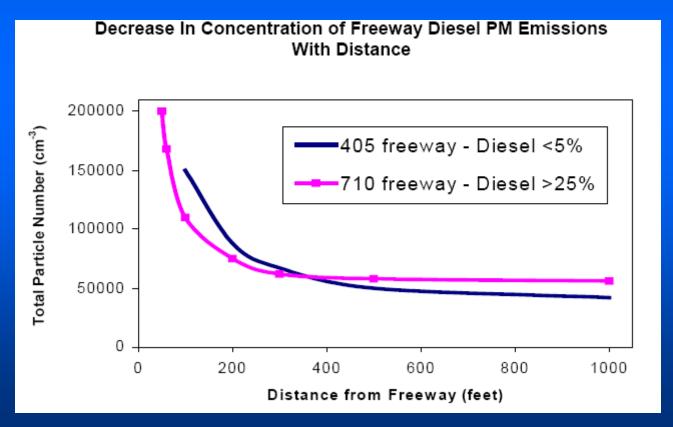






### Success/challenge: land-use planning

 Air Quality and Land Use Handbook: A Community Health Perspective





### Challenge: ZEV program

- Battery electrics
- Fuel cell vehicles



2007 expert panel review

### Success: ZEV program

- PZEVs
- Hybrids
- SULEVs



### Challenge: transportation petroleum use reduction

- Reduce petroleum use 15% by 2020
- Increase alternative fuel use to 20% by 2020
- Focus on renewable, biofuels
- Ethanol: E10 or E85 or both?



#### Challenge: diesel risk reduction

- Goals set in 2000
  - 75% reduction by 2010
  - 85% reduction by 2020
- Approaches
  - New engine standards
  - In-use compliance (heavy duty I/M)
  - Clean diesel fuel, alternative fuels
  - Retrofit program
- Growth problem



### Success: clean light duty diesels

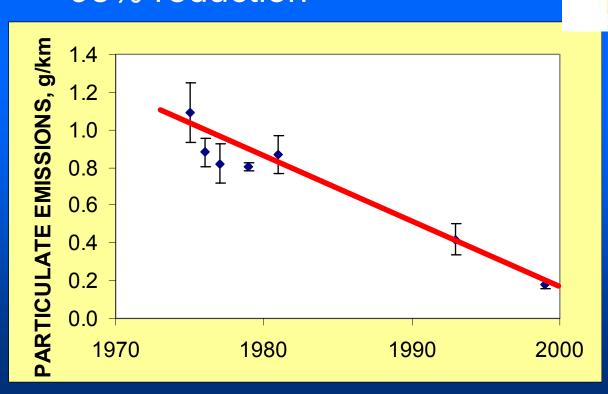
- Will meet California LEV II standards
- Multiple manufacturers are planning to introduce to California
- Fuel economy, performance
- Larger vehicles





### Success: heavy duty diesel PM reduction

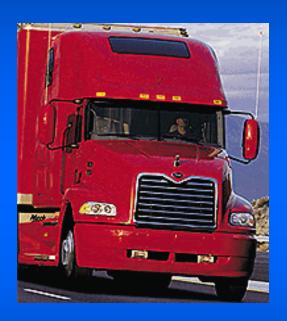
- On-road evidence
- 2007 trap technology,
   98% reduction





### Challenge: heavy duty diesel NO<sub>x</sub> reduction

- On-road emissions have not matched emission standards
- NO<sub>x</sub> versus fuel economy trade-off
- 2010 standards, 98% reduction
  - Urea based selective catalytic reduction
  - Other approaches





#### In conclusion:

"If you enjoy challenges and successes, the Air Resources Board is a great place to work!" –R. Sawyer, November, 2006



